

Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20554

In the Matter of 2002 Biennial Regulatory Review -
Review of the Commission's Broadcast Ownership Rules
and Other Rules Adopted Pursuant to Section 202
of the Telecommunications Act of 1996,
Notice of Proposed Rulemaking,
MM Docket No. 02-277, (rel. Sept. 23, 2002)

To: The Secretary, FCC Commissioners, and Chief, Media Bureau

Regarding Docket No. 02-277, the Biennial Review of the FCC's broadcast media ownership rules. Diversity of ownership utilizes the competition of the market to create better sources of information necessary to functioning democracies.

I urge the FCC to maintain the ownership rules currently in place.

Also, I support the FCC's plan to hold a public hearing on this matter in Richmond, VA in February of 2003.

Public hearings remove such decisions from the rarefied air of government employees and lobbyists.

With the serious impact these rule changes will have on our democracy, it is important that the Commission take the time to review these issues more thoroughly and allow the American people to have a meaningful say in the process.

Thank you for your consideration,

Edward Melendez